

(2) Provide security personnel at the foreign point of departure for every international departure which is participating in ACSPP to conduct the following procedures:

(i) Perform a thorough internal and external search of the departing aircraft;

(ii) Maintain total control of all passengers and cargo being loaded on the aircraft from either the passenger terminal or the carrier's cargo facility;

(iii) Verify that all cargo placed on the aircraft is properly manifested, marked and weighed and that piece counts are properly performed;

(iv) Maintain physical security of the aircraft and ramp access to the aircraft while it is being loaded; and

(v) Maintain similar positive security measures at all foreign intermediate airports prior to the arrival of the aircraft at an ACSPP designated airport.

(b) *U.S. Customs.* U.S. Customs will:

(1) Retain all current options available regarding the search and inspection of any and all passengers, cargo and conveyances; and

(2) Provide training to carrier personnel to assist the development of proper operational procedures.

§ 122.175 Exemption from penalties.

Should a controlled substance be introduced into the United States or discovered aboard an aircraft owned or operated by a participating carrier, or in cargo carried by a participating carrier, on a route identified by the carrier as one participating in the ACSPP and which has been approved by Customs, the participating air carrier shall be considered to have met the test of highest degree of care and diligence required under law, and shall not be subject to the penalty or seizure provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, if the carrier establishes at an oral presentation before the port director or his designee, that the carrier was not grossly negligent nor engaged in willful misconduct, and that it had complied with all the provisions of these regulations.

§ 122.176 Removal from ACSPP.

(a) *Grounds for removal from ACSPP.* The Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, may revoke or

suspend the privilege of operating as a member of the ACSPP if:

(1) Acceptance into the program was gained through fraud or the misstatement of a material fact;

(2) The carrier refuses or neglects to obey any proper order of a Customs officer or any Customs order, rule, or regulation relative to its cooperation within the program;

(3) An officer of the carrier or corporation which has been accepted into the program is convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving theft, smuggling, or other theft-connected crime which was committed in his or her official capacity as an officer of the carrier, or is convicted of any Customs-related crime;

(4) The carrier fails to retain merchandise which has been designated for examination;

(5) The carrier does not provide secure facilities or properly safeguard merchandise within its area of control; or

(6) The carrier fails to observe any of the procedures which it had set forth in the SOP which served as the basis for the carrier's acceptance into the program; and

(7) The carrier has been notified in writing that it has been found in non-compliance with a provision of the program and has failed to correct such noncompliance after having been given a reasonable opportunity to correct such noncompliance.

(b) *Notice and appeal.* The Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, shall suspend or remove participants from the ACSPP by serving notice of the proposed action upon the carrier in writing. The notice shall be in the form of a statement specifically setting forth the grounds for suspension or removal and shall provide the carrier with notice that it may file a written notice of appeal from suspension or revocation within 10 days following receipt of the notice of revocation or suspension. The notice of appeal shall be filed in duplicate to the office of the Assistant Commissioner, Field Operations, and shall set forth response of the carrier to the statement of the Assistant Commissioner.

(c) *Notice of decision.* The Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, shall notify the participating carrier in writing of the decision concerning continued participation in the program.

(d) *Use of uniform criteria.* When making any determination regarding a carrier's participation or continuation in the ACSPP, the Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, shall employ a uniform standard of performance and evaluation.

[T.D. 91-25, 56 FR 12347, Mar. 25, 1991, as amended by T.D. 91-77, 56 FR 46115, Sept. 10, 1991; T.D. 99-27, 64 FR 13675, Mar. 22, 1999]

Subpart S—Access to Customs Security Areas

SOURCE: T.D. 90-82, 55 FR 42557, Oct. 22, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

§ 122.181 Definition of Customs security area.

For purposes of this section, the term "Customs security area" means the Federal inspection services area at any airport accommodating international air commerce designated for processing passengers, crew, their baggage and effects arriving from foreign countries, as well as the aircraft deplaning and ramp area and other restricted areas designated by the port director. These areas will be posted as restricted to the extent possible and are established for the purpose of prohibiting unauthorized entries or contact with persons or objects.

§ 122.182 Security provisions.

(a) *Identification cards required.* With the exception of all Federal and uniformed State and local law enforcement personnel, all persons located at, operating out of, or employed by any airport accommodating international air commerce or its tenants or contractors, including air carriers, who have unescorted access to the Customs security area, must openly display or produce upon demand an approved identification card, strip, or seal issued by Customs. The approved identification card, strip, or seal shall be in the possession of the person in whose name it is issued whenever the person is in

the Customs security area. The identification card, strip or seal remains the property of Customs, and any bearer must immediately surrender it upon demand by any authorized Customs officer.

(b) *Employers responsibility and liability.* Employers operating in Customs airport security areas shall advise all employees of the provisions of the Customs regulations relative to those areas, require employees to familiarize themselves with those provisions and insure employee compliance. The employer shall also advise the port director of any changes of employment pursuant to § 122.182(g). The failure to comply with these regulations shall be considered a default of the conditions of the employer's bond, as hereafter specified, and shall make the employer liable for liquidated damages as specified in its bond.

(c) *Application and bond.* An application for an approved identification card, strip, or seal, as required by this section, shall be filed by the applicant with the port director on Customs Form 3078. The application requirement applies to all employees required to display an approved identification card by this section, regardless of the length of their employment. The application shall be supported by the bond of the applicant's employer or principal on Customs Form 301 containing the bond conditions set forth in §§ 113.62, 113.63, or 113.64 of this chapter, relating to importers or brokers, custodians of bonded merchandise, or international carriers. If the applicant's employer is not the principal on a Customs bond on Customs Form 301 for one or more of the activities stated above, the application shall be supported by an Airport Customs Security Area Bond, as set forth in appendix A of part 113 of this chapter. This bond may be waived, however, for State or local government-related agencies in the discretion of the port director. Waiver of this bond does not relieve any such agency or its employees from compliance with all other provisions of this subpart.

(d) *Background check.* For employees hired on or after November 1, 1985, an authorized official of the employer